

City of Corunna
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, August 17, 1998

Present: Weaver, Bendall, Dumond, Ockerman, Reid.

Absent: Greiger, Williams.

Guests: Lisa Hitchcock, City Manager; Tom Svrcek, Director of Public Works; Tom Wiegel; Judy Horton; Gary Schooley, Parks & Recreation Director; Karl Bashi; Jackie Leone, The Argus Press; and other concerned citizens.

The meeting was called to order in the City Council Chambers by Mayor Weaver at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING: Dumond moved, Reid seconded to approve the August 3, 1998 Regular Council Minutes as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Reid, Bendall, Ockerman, Dumond.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

AGENDA APPROVAL: Dumond moved, Bendall seconded to approve the agenda by changing Item No. 6) to Consider Appointments to the Fourth of July Commission and by adding Item No. 7) Closed Session – City Manager’s Evaluation.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bendall, Dumond, Ockerman, Reid.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

APPROVAL OF VENDOR DISBURSEMENTS: Bendall moved, Reid seconded to approve the vendor disbursements as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Ockerman, Dumond, Reid, Bendall.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Tom Wiegel, 1022 N. Shiawassee Street, advised there was a traffic situation on N. Shiawassee Street that has potential for disaster. There are semi trucks backing down and across Shiawassee Street. He further advised he wanted to bring the situation to council’s attention since the children are going back to school. He also advised he brought the situation to the attention of Ms. Hitchcock, Gary Palmer, and the police chief, but he has not gotten a response. Mayor Weaver advised council would take a look at the situation. Mr. Wiegel asked if someone would contact him. Mayor Weaver advised yes, someone would contact him.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CRESTVIEW HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION PLAT: Lisa Hitchcock presented a copy of the subdivision plat to council. She advised the city has requested the top course to be put on in the spring in case there are any problems with the base course. Mayor Weaver asked if the city was ready to give formal approval. Tom Svrcek advised yes, the developer has addressed everything the city brought to them. Councilperson

Dumond stated it was time to move forward if Mr. Eyde has complied with all of the city's requests. Mr. Svrcek stated he was very happy with the way everything has turned out in the subdivision. Bendall moved, Dumond seconded to accept the Crestview Heights Subdivision Plat as presented including the letter of agreement signed by the Eyde Company dated August 17, 1998.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Dumond, Ockerman, Bendall, Reid.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY #025 REVISION: Ms. Hitchcock explained the present policy requires an employee to reimburse the city for all tuition, which could be ten to fifteen years of tuition. The new policy would require a one-year payback. She further explained the second from the last paragraph changed the reimbursement to 100% for class grade point of 3.0 or higher and 90% for class grade point of 2.5 TO 2.99. Previously, the reimbursement was on a graduated scale, which started at 100% and went down to 75%. Ms. Hitchcock stated the reimbursement change would encourage employees to go back to school and to take classes the city requested. Ms. Hitchcock further stated the last paragraph changed the maximum reimbursement amount from \$3,000 to \$3,500 per year and was based on the tuition increase at the local colleges. Councilperson Reid asked if the maximum reimbursement for part-time employees stayed the same. Ms. Hitchcock advised yes. Dumond moved, Bendall seconded to approve the administrative policy changes for Administrative Policy #025-Education Reimbursement.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Reid, Ockerman, Bendall, Dumond.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM THE SHIAWASSEE COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY TO HOLD THEIR WALK-A-THON IN CORUNNA ON SEPTEMBER 27, 1998 BEGINNING AT 1:30 P.M. IN MCCURDY PARK: Dumond moved, Bendall seconded to approve the request from the Shiawassee County Habitat for Humanity to hold their walk-a-thon in Corunna on September 27, 1998 beginning at 1:30 p.m. in McCurdy Park.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bendall, Reid, Dumond, Ockerman.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM CORUNNA PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO USE CITY HALL AND PRIVACY BOOTHS FOR THEIR SPECIAL BOND ELECTION ON SEPTEMBER 23, 1998: Bendall moved, Reid seconded to approve the request from Corunna Public Schools to use city hall and privacy booths for the special bond election on September 23, 1998.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Reid, Bendall, Ockerman, Dumond.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPROVAL FOR BANNER BRACKETS: Ms. Hitchcock advised the Owosso-

Corunna Chamber of Commerce's "Take Pride in Our Schools" promotion was now underway and donations were being collected for the banners which would be placed in downtown Owosso and Corunna. She further advised the request before council was to approve funds for the banner brackets. The brackets would be placed on the poles in the downtown area and on the street signs in front of the park. Councilperson Ockerman asked if the banners would be high enough. Ms. Hitchcock advised yes, the banners would be over seven feet off the ground. Councilperson Dumond asked if the brackets would be adaptable to the new street lighting. Ms. Hitchcock advised there were no guarantees they would be adaptable but Tom Svrcek was working with Woodbury Sheet & Metal to see if the brackets could be adaptable. Councilperson Ockerman asked from what material the brackets would be made from. Tom Svrcek advised the brackets would be made from stainless steel. Councilperson Dumond asked if the banners would be in place for a certain period of time and then taken down. Ms. Hitchcock advised the banners would be put up between summer and holiday decorations and again between holiday decorations and spring plantings. Councilperson Ockerman asked what size the banners would be. Ms. Hitchcock advised the banners would be two foot by three foot. Councilperson Bendall asked what fund the monies would be taken from. Ms. Hitchcock advised the General Fund Right-Of-Way Maintenance. Dumond moved, Bendall seconded to approve the purchase of banner brackets in an amount not to exceed \$1,200. Gary Schooley advised the Festival of Trees Committee has ordered Hometown Holiday Festival of Trees banners, which would be placed in the same brackets. Ms. Hitchcock thanked the Chamber of Commerce for initiating the project.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bendall, Dumond, Ockerman, Reid.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENTS TO FOURTH OF JULY COMMISSION: Bendall moved,

Dumond seconded to appoint Sandy Mehig to the Fourth of July Commission to replace Sherrie Sleseman, term to expire December 31, 2000 and to appoint Gary Schooley to the Fourth of July Commission to replace Homer Bennett, term to expire December 31, 1998.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Ockerman, Dumond, Reid, Bendall.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CLOSED SESSION – CITY MANAGER'S EVALUATION: Bendall moved, Reid seconded to leave regular session and go into closed session for city manager's evaluation.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Dumond, Ockerman, Bendall, Reid.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 7:35 p.m.

Dumond moved, Reid seconded to leave closed session and return to regular session.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Reid, Ockerman, Bendall, Dumond.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 9:02 p.m.

Ockerman moved, Bendall seconded to increase the city manager's pay from \$41,700 to \$46,000.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bendall, Reid, Dumond, Ockerman.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

PRE-COUNCIL: Councilperson Ockerman asked who drew up the letter of agreement with the Eyde Company. Lisa Hitchcock advised she did because the city does not have a standard form to use. Councilperson Ockerman asked Ms. Hitchcock and Tom Svrcek if they inspected the subdivision. Ms. Hitchcock advised no, the city's engineers did the inspections. Councilperson Ockerman asked if the city was paying Rowe Engineering for doing the inspections. Ms. Hitchcock advised no, Capital Consultants would be doing the inspections. She further advised the inspection costs would be charged back to Eyde Construction. Tom Svrcek advised Rowe Engineering was Mr. Eyde's engineering firm for only certain parts of the project. Councilperson Ockerman asked Ms. Hitchcock if the city attorney reviewed the letter of agreement. Ms. Hitchcock advised no, the agreement was reviewed by Capital Consultants to make sure all of the bases were covered. Mayor Weaver asked why a cash bond was requested for street lighting. Ms. Hitchcock stated the city has to request the street lighting. Councilperson Dumond stated street lighting was one of the items the planning commission had recommended. Ms. Hitchcock advised a property owner could not put street lighting in the right-of-way. She further advised a special assessment district could be set up for usage, which would be paid once a year. She also advised no one else in the city pays a special assessment for street light usage and she did not feel it would be appropriate. Ms. Hitchcock asked council if a special assessment would be appropriate. Council was in agreement that a special assessment for street light usage would be inappropriate. Councilperson Ockerman asked how many lots were available in the subdivision. Ms. Hitchcock advised fifty-one. Councilperson Ockerman asked if any of the lots were sold. Ms. Hitchcock advised no, the lots could not be sold until the plat was approved.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Councilperson Ockerman stated he was concerned with where the fire department was parking. There is a dangerous situation next to the post office when the firemen park on both sides of the street. He further stated he stated his concerns to the fire chief, and it was not received very well. Councilperson Ockerman stated when there is a fire, parking occurs on both sides of the street all day. He further stated he informed the fire chief that he would like some cooperation by informing the firemen to park behind the building. He also stated the fire chief informed him the firemen could park wherever they want by law and then he left in a huff. Councilperson Ockerman advised he and Councilperson Reid would be facing this issue at the fire board. He further advised he could not understand why the firemen could not use the back parking lot. Ms. Hitchcock stated she would like to request the firemen use the parking lot when they are at city hall during non-emergency reasons to keep the corner clear.

Councilperson Ockerman stated he had several questions regarding the year-end budget and he received answers to his questions. He further stated council was responsible for approving the total amount spent and Ms. Hitchcock has the authority to alter those amounts. Councilperson Ockerman wanted council to know Ms. Hitchcock has the authority to change the amounts. Ms. Hitchcock advised she could change line items as long as it was not the total of the fund.

Ms. Hitchcock advised the joint meeting with the boards and commissions has been scheduled for September 10, 1998 at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Weaver stated he was requesting all of the chairpersons to give a five minute overview of what their board or commission is doing, what they have done, and what they are looking at doing. He further stated the objective of the meeting is to become better acquainted with what everyone is working on for the betterment of the community. He also stated he would like each councilperson to speak for two minutes about what ward they represent, where they would like to see the city heading, or what the city has accomplished.

Ms. Hitchcock advised she had lunch with the new county coordinator who will be taking over on September 8, 1998.

ADJOURN: Dumond moved, Bendall seconded to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Reid, Bendall, Ockerman, Dumond.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 9:22 p.m.

AVERY WEAVER, MAYOR

YVONNE F. LONG, CITY CLERK